

## **Surveillance for West Nile Virus During 2006**

The State Mosquito Management Program will again be monitoring the occurrence of mosquito-borne viruses of public health importance during the 2006 season. For West Nile virus (WNV), surveillance will emphasize evaluating mosquito trapping and testing results. The Department of Public Health (DPH) Laboratory will continue to provide testing of human specimens from hospitalized patients with neurologic illness consistent with WNV infection.

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station will conduct mosquito trapping statewide from June through October. Mosquitoes will be collected Monday-Thursday at 91 sites on a rotating basis. Testing will be done at the CAES laboratory for WNV. Mosquito trapping and testing will be the mainstay WNV surveillance system for determining when WNV re-emerges and the local magnitude for the human health threat for the 2006 season. **Crows and other selected bird species will no longer be used to evaluate the risk of WNV.**